

MAY - JUNE 2022

Price 50p

HOORAY FOR EXE VALLEY DWELLERS

Hoping this note finds you well Access and able to get on with life as we Wednesday now.



There has been a great deal of joy in being able to gather again. A friend said recently 'I'd love to do more in the Exe Valley but sometimes you just need to be shown what those things are' So true isn't it! An experience or a picture, speaking as a Charlie Macksey fan, can tell you about what gives you life, it inspires and enables you to wonder.

Maybe allow yourself to experience some Exe Valley treats...

'Explore' and relax at Rackenford Church's new service every 2nd Sunday.

Join the choir for a jolly good sing laughs and chats with on Thursday evenings.

Catch the Exe Valley Bus, meet new friends and try out the Soup 3rd Group' everv Thursday afternoon.

Zoom coffee on а morning and in are all being encouraged to do person on the 1st Wednesday of May and June are the best the month.

> 5-11yr olds can come to the Holiday Club on 9th and 10th August. The centre pages show all the forms of worship opportunities available each week.

Meet the EVMC team! We love people and are available to you, Asking see contact details inside the front page.



Rector - Steph, Curate - Claire Steve - Adminstrator, Dave -Worship Facilitator and Dawn. MCDO

Over the last nine listening in the pub, churches, village halls and in people's homes to individuals and groups, has enabled me to hear what you would love to see in your community. Thank you for your

time, your insights have been so valuable.

months for celebrating new life. It can be a tough time for our teens and uni students, revising for and taking end of year exams, however, be assured we are thinking of you. There will also be a time of celebrating our Queen and celebrating each other too.

in an Easter church service recently what brought people joy, one lady said, 'moving to the village where the community was so friendly and welcoming has brought me joy'. Community is special and unique because of our diffrences. Jesus said these words ' I have come that they may have life and have it to the full'. Such truth! Let's go for this life in all it's fulness. There are 3100 people living in the Exe Valley, probably a few more in the coming weeks with the Ukranian refugees. Let's enjoy our community, sharing skills and life-giving experiences with all Exe Valley Dwellers months young and old alike.

> Hoping to meet more of you along the way.

> > Love to all, Claire your curate

Copy Deadline for July / August 2022 issue

Friday June 10 2022

THE EXE VALLEY **MISSION COMMUNITY**

Calverleigh, Cruwys Morchard, Loxbeare, Oakford, Rackenford, Stoodleigh, Templeton, Washfield and Withleigh

www.exevalleychurches.org

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WITHLEIGH Brenda Tucker 01884 252431 tucks@btconnect.com Stephen Roche 01884 33665 stephen roche187@hotmail.com

From Wednesday 2nd March The Exe Valley Bus Trips will be up and running! **Contact:** Diana Hopper 01884 259781 Jenny Pack 01884 562277

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Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 V X H H E L I Z A B E T H A Y I WN T T L L Z P T D L O T X N T GOL F F Z K F L O N R P O L H V J A M A D N B N A O O R W E R E X E M C C C D E S T T C U M O O P W R Y E O S D O H I L E E N OONOJNLNCECANNSE YNOYWUIERORAGUNH TOMATWBNBOT LSE MO N C M L D T I I M R A L E T T R E O O B R R L L L N A U A P L S V R C N E X A C D E Q T B N J E E G I L Y B A DWO E P I P D S S I A P A L A C E R U V I O O X X N S A N D R I N G H A M F N R D T J N C O R O N A T I O N G K

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HELP US CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

CALLING ALL SINGERS WHO JUST LOVE TO SING. LET US FORM A VALLEY JUBILEE CHOIR. TO SIGN UP SPEAK TO ANDREW OR CLAIRE CURTIS 07873575276 IT WILL BE FUN!!

Sarah Milne is our choirmaster and Andrew Herniman our organist Practice nights are on a Thursday evening at 7.30pm hosted by different

Exe Valley Mission Community Churches.



April 25 - Oakford May 5 - Loxbeare May 12 - Templeton May 19 - Withleigh May 26 - Washfield



The final celebration will be at St Peter's Oakford on 29 May 10.45am followed by a 'bring and share' lunch in the village hall.





Steph's Soup Kitchen Iona to The Pectory on Thursday 19th N

For more infotmation

T: 01398 351471

M: 07894 080143

fionarolfe@live.co.uk

Come along to The Rectory on Thursday 19th May and 16th June for Steph's Soup and Pudding Lunch.

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THE EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY EASTER FLOWER TRAIL



Palm Sunday - Washfied



Templeton - The Last Supper



Withleigh - The Garden of Gethsemane



Loxbeare - Peter's Denial



Oakford - The Burial



Stoodleigh - The Trial



Cruwys Morchard - The Empty Tomb



Rackenford - The Crucifixion



Calverleigh - Picnic on the Beach

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Friday 25th September 2020 and Friday 6th November 2020

NATURE NOTES

I have just enjoyed my bonfire and approached the task with the usual moral dilemmas.

If you like bonfires it is likely that you are male or a child. I apologize to any who find my comments sexist or ageist but Henry V111 {whom I serve} does not seem to object. Although he is a very religious man he is usually in a bad temper and often shouts at me that 'heads will roll', methinks he is only jesting.

Concerns for the bonfire extend to denying a hedgehog a home, if the woodlice will be able to shuffle to pastures new and whether returning the ash to the land is excuse enough.

Nevertheless there is huge satisfaction from trying to keep the fire going, as the wood is never quite dry enough and the fascination of seeing the fire rekindle into life is mesmerising.

Staring through the light of the Easter candle is similar. In these moments of reflection I cannot help remembering my olde biology teacher 'Sad Smile Slater'. He once asked the class if a flame was a mammal. After all, they both consume oxygen and release CO2, each are warm, consume, grow and die and are capable of emitting smells.

As a result even 'dopey Dave' could answer the year-end exam question when asked to list the differences between an adder and a dormouse. Men unlike women are well equipped to tend bonfires as it demands much patience.

I often see the same in the fishermen who spend the day by the Thames but do not catch anything. Quite why they do this is a mystery, as there is much fish in the ponds of the Lords and Monasteries. Even Henry obeys the rule to eat fish on Friday, much as he likes meat. There are rumours that this favours the owners of the ponds but Henry will not hear of this given the piety of the monks and the beauty of their abbeys which inspire the common folk.

As I stare into the fire I remember the unconsumed burning bush, which is of course only symbolic as shrubs like fires as much as swans like Christmas.

Editor's note: Thomas was not to know of turkeys or Sequoia trees}

Must go now, as Henry is arguing with the Cardinal again. I do not know why it is not enough to just believe and do the right thing. No doubt future ages will have wiser counsel and trustworthy leaders. It is enough for me to look for the silver lining whenever smoke and dark skies cover the blue.

{Editor's note: Thomas will be executed for his firm faith and excessive sarcasm, especially as I told him to concentrate on Mrs. Tiggiewinkle}

Thomas More





In celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, St Margaret's Church will be holding a Flower Festival from 2nd-6th June. In Stoodleigh.

We are blessed with some amazing flower arrangers so you can guarantee the church will be looking its best.

Do come and visit. The church will be open daily from 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.



Templeton Church Easter Sunday!







CALVERLEIGH

Alleluia, Christ has risen, Alleluia! AThe Easter Trail was up and running by Palm Sunday and hopefully you had the opportunity to travel around to all nine churches to see their displays. Calverleigh's representation was the 'Picnic on the beach', following the resurrection of Jesus. Our thanks go to all who helped with the display or flower arrangements.

The APCM took place on Sunday 13 February immediately after our morning service with Rev'd Steph Gordon-Jeffs chairing the meetina. Aubrev Goldsworthy and Jackie Herniman were re-elected as Churchwardens and were thanked for all they do to help keep St. Mary's open for worship. Jackie also continues on as Treasurer and was thanked for all she does with keeping the church finances in order. Julie Goldsworthy was re-elected as PCC Secretary. Aubrey continues as Deanery Synod representative. Reelected onto the PCC were David Burton, Shirley Goldsworthy, Sheila Greenslade and Lorna Thomas.

Sadly Rita Tapp made the decision to step down this year and thanks were given to her for all she has done over the years whilst on the PCC and with supporting and organising fundraising events and catering. Our worship leaders were also thanked for taking regular self-take services. Thanks were also given to all PCC members, those who are on either the cleaning/flower or mowing rota's and of course all those who support St. Mary's with regular giving/organising or attending fundraising events, services

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or in any other way. Without the faithful volunteers this church would not still be here, so we appreciate every single one of you, more than words can really say.

On Mothering Sunday Rev'd Steph Gordon-Jeffs led the service to remember and give thanks for our mothers, whether still with us or with us in our hearts, and our Mother church. It was a lovely service and posies along with a special card were handed out at the end of it.

Congratulations and best wishes to anyone who has been celebrating a birthday, anniversary, special engagement or birth of a child. If you have any news that you would like to share of a special celebration or about village activities please contact Dave on: david.burton@doivedesigns.co.uk

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are unwell, waiting for or recovering from treatment at this time, also with those who have been affected in any way with Coronavirus which is still with us.

If you are new to the village or local area - Welcome! We hope that you will be very happy in your new surroundings. Come and join us at our upcoming events and meet your neighbours, if you can.

On 21 March, a meeting was held in the village hall to discuss arrangements for a celebration to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth during the extended Bank Holiday weekend of 2 - 5 June. Residents of Calverleigh and Lurley along with congregation members of St. Mary's Church were present. Details of what was agreed can be found below.

Events Coming Up

At the afore-mentioned meeting It was agreed that a Bring & Share Afternoon Tea will take place on Saturday 4 June from 3 - 6pm. There will be a fancy dress competition for under 12s (please see flyers for entry details and return date), face painting, fun and games for all ages and a draw. If you would like to come along to the afternoon please contact Tatty Amory on tattyamory@gmail.com so that we have a good idea of numbers wanting to attend. There is no charge, except for the draw, but please bring along a plate of food (sweet or savoury), your own glasses and alcoholic drinks, if you wish. Tea, coffee and squash will be available.

A follow up meeting for the planning of Queen's Platinum Jubilee the Afternoon Tea will take place on Thursday 5 May at 7.30pm in the church.

On Sunday 5 June there will be a special celebratory service at St. Marv's at 10.45am to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Our Annual Day of Prayer will be on Saturday 7 May from 9am - 9pm where people are invited to take part in half hour time slots (or longer if you desire), at a place that is comfortable for you. Prayer suggestion sheets will be handed out but also available by the font in the Church. If you would like to be added to the contact list, please email: thegoldsworthys@yahoo.co.uk.

On Sat 25 June, we are organising a Fun Day at the village hall in aid of church funds (third attempt!) In the morning there will be a Car Boot sale (a chance to sell your pre-loved items). Refreshments, competitions, cake and

produce stall, display of 'Days gone by' photo's and memories will also be available in the Hall. In the evening we will hold a social get-together with bring and share supper, all age games and dancing. Posters with more details will be available closer to the time, but please pop it in your diary!

Sunday 3 July at 3pm we have our Open-air service in the churchyard (weather permitting) or inside, if not.

Produce Our Annual Show is scheduled to take place on Sat 27 August at 2.30pm. Schedules should now be available from the church or by contacting Maureen & Paul Furneaux (mo.furneaux@hotmail.co.uk / 01884 258770). Entry forms must be in by Fri 12 Aug for those wishing to enter.

Cleaning Rota	
25 Apr - 7 May:	Miss J Herniman
9 - 21 May:	Mrs S Greenslade
23 May - 4 Jun:	Mrs A Webber
6 - 18 Jun:	Mrs M Furneaux
20 Jun - 2nd Jul:	Mrs R Tapp
Mowing Rota	
2 - 14 May:	Mr C Durnan
16 - 28 May:	The Webber Family
30 May - 11 Jun:	Mr K Hayes
13 Jun - 25 Jun:	Mr A Hancock
27 Jun - 9 Jul:	Mr D White
Flower Rota	
1 - 8 May:	Mrs B Hill
15 - 22 May:	Mrs R Tapp
29 May - 5 Jun:	Mr M Ravnkilde.
12 - 19 Jun:	Ms L Carrey.

Do you have anything to share in the magazine? Please send your photos, news, birthday messages, anniversary congratulations, stories or anything else to Dave Burton by calling 01884

Mrs G Tucker

26 Jun - 3 Jul:



7

561499 or by email: calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org.

Please see the centre pages of the magazine or the website (www.exevalleychurches.org/calverlei gh) for any update information on services or activities.

CRUWYS MORCHARD

SAVE the DATE for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Sunday 5 June at 3pm.

Cruwys Morchard is celebrating with a "bring your own tea party", with your own tables, chairs, and food, gathered around the Cruwys Arms car parks, the bar and toilets will be open. Hopefully as many households as possible will be able to come so we can all gather together to enjoy our tea and other's tea! Make your own crown.

Nomansland are having their Jubilee Tea on Thursday 2 June. Look out for the notices.

The Defibrillator

On Wednesday 6 April there was a very successful, well attended, meeting with the Parish Council at the Parish Hall;. 30 people attended, with comments from a further 14 parishioners who were unable to attend the meeting. They were all in favour of having another defibrillator with the majority opting for the phone box outside the pub. The meeting decided that two defribrillators were needed in the parish, one in Pennymoor Village and another in Way Village. The Pennymoor one in the phone box by the

PARISH ROUND-UP

Cruwys Arms, it is yet to be decided where one could be placed in Way Village. The Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) The parish clerk agreed to contact them to get their advise, and also determine the cost of a suitable defibrillator. A SUB Group has been created to deal with ongoing progression. Training will be needed, Lee Waterman has a cousin who works in Health and Safety, who might be willing to do so. The Clerk was asked to find out if it is necessary to have insurance for the defibrillator.

Fundraising

The first fundraising event was in the Cruwys Arms on Saturday 9 April, it raised £472. Thank you to everyone who brought cakes, raffle prizes and drank tea. There will be more fundraising events I am sure, although we have almost enough in the funds to pay for one defibrillator, we still need the funds to pay for the second one.

FLOWER and CLEANING ROTA

2 - 9 May	Diana Vincent and
Val Randerson	
16 - 23 May	Marian Kingdom
30 May - 6 June	Cindy Trick
13 - 20 June	Sarah Cruwys
27 - 4 July	Sonia Notley and
Claire Miller	



On Palm Sunday, it was such a pleasure and surprise to be greeted at the Church by Sarah Stone and her 18

month old donkey, Dotty. Dotty was rescued from a market in Yeovil and can be seen regularly in the village waliking around the lanes. Dotty's aim is to become a therapy donkey when she is 4yrs old. In the past few weeks we have been practiscing walking to the church and up the steps. Luckily Dotty is a nosey donkey so is happy to see what is going on and to join in! She was dressed in a vintage saddle and really did look her part. Well done to Dotty and Sarah. Times for all services in May and June can be found on the centre pages

THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

It is hoped that the Annual Flower Show will go ahead this year on 13 August. Schedules will be the same as last year, this will be available to parishioners on Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall Website and also on the Cruwys Morchard Community site on Facebook. If you require a 'Hard' copy, please contact Pauline at 5 Moorview. Potatoes for the under 16's are also available now. This was very well supported last year. There will be no Scarecrow competition this year.

CRUWYS ARMS GARDENERS.

At our last meeting Bryan Wright came to talk to us about honey bees.

An experienced bee keeper, who also teaches prospective keepers, helping them to get started with hives of their own, his enthusiasm and thorough knowledge kept us all engaged. I didn't know that bees have been on this planet for 27 million years, in other words as Gerry commented, as long as flowers, which of course makes sense. Also that females, the worker bees, far from being the underdogs are the ones that ultimately are in control of the hive. The male drones who on the surface have a great life, in fact don't come off

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very well at all! Surprisingly the mild winter has not been good news for bees as they have continued to be at least partially active, making it difficult to treat the hive for varroa mite.

Gardeners play an important part in providing nectar and pollen for bees and I for one have been pleased to see them visiting the early flowers, in particular pulmonaria, comfrey, dandelions and other wild flowers - a reminder not to be too ruthless when weeding in the garden. Bryan will have a stall at Puddington Fete so if you are interested in bees or just delicious honey you can catch up with him there.

CRUWYS MORCHARD YOUNG FARMERS

Panto - the club came 4th and won the award for the best moment with the ballroom dancing at the County round. The re-run was a success with a large crowd watching our final performance at the parish hall.

SWA - Gracie did herself proud with her speech on mental health coming 2nd with the Devon Public Speaking Team.

The Tractor run happened on the 20 March, a great day raising in the region of \pounds 500.

Members and advisory had an enjoyable Skittles night at the Cruwys Arms.

Members are preparing their stock ready for Wednesday 20 April which is the County Show and Sale.

YOGA in the parish Hall, ring Hilary for information. 01363 866245.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH had Hot Cross Buns and coffee on Good Friday morning.

Services at the Congregational Church in North Street are going back to being

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Thursday 2 June – Sunday 5 June 2022

22 May Plant sale and Cream tea at Wringsland House. 2pm-4.30pm. Do Come.

FETE – Saturday 9 July – 12noon- 3pm. All offers to help gratefully received; please ring Diana Vincent on 01363 860 227

Gazebos to lend, please. Stalls and games including raffle, tombola, cakes, books, etc BBQ, if we have a volunteer to run it.

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2022 Saturday 12 September. Details in the next magazine.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 12 November 2022

Congratulations and welcome to Binkie Olivia Miller on the occasion of her baptism on Sunday 3 April. The Church was full for such a lovely service.

Welcome to all those who have recently moved into the village

Our prayers and sympathy to the families of Graham Townsend and Elaine Gale who passed in January.

Best wishes and prayers to all who are not well and in hospital, may you be home soon and on the way to recovery.





LOXBEARE

t has been good to enjoy the flowers of spring and though at the time of writing we are having a colder spell the warmth of the sunshine will soon be here and a lone swallow making its appearance - a sign that summer is on its way.

On 27 March, Mothering Sunday, it was good once more, after a break of two years, to share and enjoy our full English Breakfast cooked by the men. Many thanks to all who contributed and to those who cooked and served etc. Also thanks to all who took part and led the service afterwards reminding us of one of the faithful and dedicated mothers in the Bible. A potted plant was given to all the ladies.

At the time of writing we are looking toward the Easter Services beginning with Maundy Thursday Agape Meal at Calverleigh. At Loxbeare there will be Easter Reflections with Steph on Good Friday as we remember Jesus' death on the cross for us, and then joining with Calverleigh for celebrating Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. He is Risen. Hallelujah!

Our APCM was held on 21 March. All roles remain the same with Richard Vickery joining the PCC. Thank you to everyone for fulfilling their positions and serving the Church community so well.

Our service in May are 10.45am, Morning Praise 1 May and Chat, coffee and cake 15 May. On 5 June we will be having a Songs of Praise at 6.30pm, celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. Anyone wishing to choose a hymn to let Carol know 01884 881480 or Jean on



1 MAY

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH 10.45am Morning Worship

CRUWYS MORCHARD Morning Prayer

LOXBEARE 10.45am Morning Praise

OAKFORD 10.45am Holy Communion with Baptism Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Dave Edwards

> RACKENFORD See Oakford

StoopLEIGH See Oakford

TEMPLETON See Oakford

WASHFIELD See Oakford

WITHLEIGH 10.45am Patronal Festival

22 MAY

9.30am Zoom Service

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY GROUP HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE is at 10.45 am in TEMPLETON

Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Claire Curtis with Dave Edwards

Everyone welcome

8 MAY

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH 10.45am Holy Communion Steph Gordon-Jeffs with Dave Edwards

> CRUWYS MORCHARD See Calverleigh

> > LOXBEARE See Calverleigh

OAKFORD See Calverleigh

RACKENFORD 9.30am Explore with Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Dave Edwards

STOODLEIGH 10.45am Morning Prayer

TEMPLETON 10.45am Morning Praise

> **WASHFIELD** See Calverleigh

WITHLEIGH 10.45am Service of the Word

THURSDAY 26 MAY Ascension Day Holy Communion

12 NOON AT STOODLEIGH

Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Claire Curtis

29 MAY **TEMPLETON** 6.00pm Evensong **WITHLEIGH** 9.30am Informal Service in village hall

15 MAY

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH 10.45am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD See Withleigh

LOXBEARE 10.45am Chat, coffee and cake

OAKFORD 10.45am Morning Praise with Claire Curtis

RACKENFORD 10.45am Morning Prayer

> **STOODLEIGH** 6.30pm Evensong

> > **TEMPLETON** See Withleigh

WASHFIELD 6.00pm Evening Prayer

WITHLEIGH 10.45am Holy Communion Steph Gordon-Jeffs with Dave Edwards+

29 MAY

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY JUBILEE CHOIR SERVICE is at 10.45 am in OAKFORD

Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Claire Curtis with Andrew Herniman Sarah Milne and Dave Edwards Followed by a Bring and Share lunch in Oakford Village Hall OUTDOOR HOLIDAY CLUB 2022 BRADLEIGH HOUSE TEMPLETON AUGUST 9th AND 10th

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12 JUNE

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH See Loxbeare

CRUWYS MORCHARD See Loxbeare

LOXBEARE 10.45am Holy Communion Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Stella Stevens with Dave Edwards

> **OAKFORD** See Loxbeare

RACKENFORD 9.30am Explore Claire Curtis and Dave Edwards

STOODLEIGH 10.45am Morning Prayer

> TEMPLETON See Loxbeare

> WASHFIELD See Loxbeare

WITHLEIGH 10.45am Service of the Word

5 JUNE PENTECOST

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH 10.45am Jubilee Celebration

CRUWYS MORCHARD 10.45am Morning Prayer

LOXBEARE 6.30pm Jubilee Songs of Praise

> OAKFORD See Rackenford

RACKENFORD 10.45am Holy Communion Steph Gordon-Jeffs with Dave Edwards

> **StoopLEIGH** See Rackenford

> **TEMPLETON** See Rackenford

WASHFIELD 6.00pm Jubilee Songs of Praise

WITHLEIGH 2.30pm Jubilee Thanksgivving

19 JUNE

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH 10.45am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD 10.45am Holy Communion Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Dave Edwards

LOXBEARE 10.45am Morning Praise Claire Curtis

OAKFORD 10.45am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD 10.45am Morning Prayer

> **STOODLEIGH** 6.30pm Evensong

TEMPLETON See Cruwys Morchard

WASHFIELD 10.45am Morning Prayer

WITHLEIGH See Cruwys Morchard **26 JUNE**

9.30am Zoom Service

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY HOLY COMMUNION GROUP SERVICE

> is at 10.45 am in WASHFIELD

Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Claire Curtis with Dave Edwards

Everyone Welcome

01884 881400. Please see centre pages for all services.

We continue to pray for Steve Troake and Maurice Taylor and for all who are unwell, for any who have suffred with Covid, feeling lonely or sad. We pray and give thanks for all medical staff and care workers as they continue to commit themselves to looking after patients sometimes under much pressure.

Happy Birthday to all with birthdays in May/June and for those celebrating special occasions.

There will be a Cream Tea in the hall 14 May, 3-4.30pm.

From the Loxbeare Hall Committee - Whats On in May-June.

Mystery Walk Around Tiverton (1.5 miles - 2hrs) the town you think you know!

Line Up of Celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. To celebrate The Queen reaching 70 years of service and a chance to come together for the Platinum Jubilee to celebrate this historic milestone, details are outlined below:

Thursday 2 June from 8.00pm BBQ and Lighting of the Beacon Sunday 5 June at 12.30pm

The Big Jubilee Lunch

To register your interest in any of the above 3 events and for information please email

loxbeare.events@yahoo.com

We again congratulate the Queen on her 70 years reign and pray that God will continue to bless her and enable her to stay well and be able to enjpy the celebrations.

OAKFORD

Summer is just around the corner. The hedgerows are beginning to burst into bud making a fresh start, time for us all to do the same.

Covid is less of a threat now thanks to the vaccination programme and the milder weather will hopefully mean an end to colds and flu, making everyone feel better and more cheerful.



In reply to Stoodleigh's challenge asking can anyone compete with their method of distributing the Today Magazine, Oakford's delivery to the west side of the parish is done by bicycle – a round trip of 20 miles.

St Peter's Church

The Easter Day service was well attended and the church looked a picture. Thank you to all the flower ladies! Unfortunately retired vicar Rev. lan Johnson was unable to take our planned Holy Communion Service due to Covid. Dawn stepped in and together with Mary, Wendy and Jean put together a lovely service.

On page 3 you will have read about the Exe Valley Jubilee Choir. Please join us for our first rehearsal in the church on Thursday 28 April at 7.30pm.

on Exe C.E. Prin

Please see all service times in the centre pages.

We said a sad good bye to Richard Hurley (Ringstone and The Red Lion) on the 31 March. A service in the church followed by internment was conducted by Rev'd Claire Curtis.

Browen and family would like to say thank you to Claire, Geoffrey, Mary, Sue and all the members of St Peter's Oakford for giving Richard such a wonderful send off on Thursday 31 March. The church was full with friends from far and wide who then enjoyed further memories and refreshments at Richard's pub The Red Lion in the village.

Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

Thoughts and prayers are also with anyone in Oakford who is ill at home, or in hospital at this time.

The Oakford Players production of 'The Vicar of Dibley', which had to be postponed because of Covid, will now take place on the 5, 6 & 7 May 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Tickets £15 per person (to include a light supper). Contact Dawn on 01398 324035

Quiz Nights at The Red Lion will be on 22 May and 19 June. at 8.00pm.

Plans are going ahead for celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Thursday evening 2 June

Oakford will be part of a national event to start the Jubilee celebrations by lighting a beacon, possibly in Mary's field above the Community Park. Gather at 9.00pm the Beacon will be lit at 9.45pm

Saturday 4 June - 2.00pm onwards In the Community Park music, fun and

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Bickleigh-on-Exe Church of England Primary is a school for children aged 2-11. We are offering all members of our local and wider community the opportunity to attend our free Baby and Toddler Group. Our group will meet every Wednesday morning 9:30am – 11:00am from 21st April 2021.





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games, come wearing red, white and blue - bring your own picnic

3.00pm In the Community Park, a group photograph will be taken of the people of Oakford to commemorate the Jubilee. Please attend this if you can. Sunday 5 June.

Tea Party on Rookery Hill - Tables and chairs will be set up and tea and coffee will be provided by the Moorland Club ladies. Everyone to bring sandwiches, scones and cakes.

Craft a crown during the week.

A crafting corner will be set up at the back of the church to encourage all to take part. Crowns to be worn at the tea party.

Please note leaflets will be distributed with final details. Also please look out for information updates about the celebrations in the 'phone box in the centre of the village.

The Moorland Club.

At the AGM a cheque for £1000 was presented to the Marie Curie Charity. - Guest speaker Stephen 19 Mav Powles will give a presentation titled 'Talk to the Otters' 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Guests very welcome - guests £2. The talk will be followed by tea/coffee and biscuits

9 June - Exmoor outing for members to Horner Tea Garden time tbc

Advance notice - Flower & Produce Show - 13 August 2022. Start planting now to take part in this popular event. Schedules available from Brenda Burrows, 3, Manor Cottages, 01398 351331, also in the phone box in Oakford, the library in Bampton and Chris Holdom, Bampton 01398 332039

Autumn Favre 15 October – an exciting change from the normal Christmas Favre.

If you are interested in joining the Moorland Ladies contact present Chairperson Jennie Chappell on 01398 351666

Oakford Parish Council

New gates for the Community Area are coming soon.

Mid Devon Dog Control order 2021 is now in place across Mid Devon.

A commemorative plaque is to be placed on a bench in the Community Area in memory of Richard Stevens, Westlake Farm, who gave 40 years of tireless service to the Parish Council. Batsworthy funding is now available for a notice board in the centre of the village.

RACKENFORD

s mentioned in the previous issue ALarry" Gardner passed away on January 27, 2022.

His service of celebration at All Saints took place on February 10 conducted by Rev Steph Gordon Jeffs. Family tributes and fond memories were shared with the congregation and donations given to All Saints Church and The Red Cross. Larry will be fondly remembered, our thoughts are with his family.

The ashes of Ernie Hill have been interred in the resting place of his parents with beautiful floral tributes.

Many were saddened to hear of the death of Jean Oxenham who once lived at Heiffers Farm with her husband

Michael and daughter Sally. Their final home together was at Witheridge where Jean passed away on 10 February. Many have happy memories of Jean, she enjoyed life, supported fundraising events, bingo, whist and enjoyed days out with the ladies group. A very kind and friendly lady who will be missed. Jean's service took place on March 2 2022 at All Saints and was conducted by Rev Adrian Wells, where her life was shared with us all in tributes. Jean was laid to rest with husband Michael. We send our love to Sally, Andrew and family.

Our belated deepest sympathy to Viv on the death of her sister. Our thoughts are with you.

Also deepest sympathy to Annabel and Simon Brooks-Ward, Zara and Charlie on the sudden death of Annabel's father at the end of March. Such difficult times as you all miss and mourn your loved ones.

On March 6 our Holy Communion service at 10.45 was taken by Rev Jane Wilson and Rev Claire, such a pleasure to have you with us.

Sadly Covid is still playing a part with a reduced congregation but comforting to be together in prayer for all our futures near and far at such difficult and heartbreaking times in our world remembering Ukraine and supporting efforts to help and assist how we can.

The following Sunday March 13 our first "Explore" service was held, a way of coming together suggested by parents. It was a very relaxed service where the children were keen to explore areas of the church. Trying to ring a bell, carefully assisted by Liz, their reaction was of great delight. They also learned



about the font, pulpit etc. The children knelt at the alter and said prayers they wanted heard, Elliott read a piece beautifully which was quite unprepared and unrehearsed. The children made a super sheep pen out of stone in the knave which the children can continue to use at Messy Church. The service concluded with hot chocolate, marshmallows if desired, squash and chocolate biscuits. We have received positive feedback and look forward to our next "Explore" to be held on the second Sunday each month at 9.30am

Joan and Fred, we hope you enjoyed your Diamond Wedding, we noticed the balloons and posters.

We have another couple who will be celebrating their Diamond Anniversary on May 16, so we send our love and many congratulations to Frances and Leslie Kelland. Another wonderful achievement for a lovely couple who many of us have known for years. We hope your celebrations will be a joy.

So many in our midst have been effected by covid, Mary, Jacques, school children and staff and no doubt many we haven't heard about. So to all of you who have been or are poorly, lonely, depressed, been into hospital or having treatment you are in our prayers.

We have had some very cold days, strong winds, rain and some warmer days, so lets hope we can all look forward to many more warmer days as the year progresses which would help to lift our spirits and maybe help us to feel better.

Thank you to the adults and children who turned out to litter pick around the village roads and on the common to make our village look tidy and welcoming. It was sad to see plastic, beer cans, bottles, plastic and odd bits strewn around.

We have beautiful flowers on the common and some gardens are also showing their lovely colours and no doubt hanging baskets will soon be on show.

What a difference the refurbishing of the seats near Trinity Well have made, a wonderful job done. We can now sit and relax and enjoy our surroundings. Thank you also to anyone who has been cutting the green areas around the village, so much appreciated.

Our Palm Sunday get together was led by Steph. It was a really uplifting and happy service where we all, children and adults, joined in the singing and actions, with Dave Edwards on his quitar, while we processed through the church with our palms. We also made palm leaves and hung on the lovely Hosanna sign. Such fun. The children were also remembering things learned from the previous Explore Service and sharing prayers. Once again we had Elliott to read for us, which we all enjoyed. Thank you to you all. Before we left we had hot chocolate, squash, cakes, and Easter Eggs to enjoy.

When you receive this, we pray we will have all enjoyed the many services prepared to be together and celebrate the joyful end to the Lenten season of fasting and penitence and rejoice in the resurrection from the dead of Jesus Christ. We hope coming together on Easter Sunday will have left us all with a feeling of meaningfullness to take forward. Not forgetting the Easter Eggs you will have been given at the end of the service, we hope you enjoyed them.

When a team of volunteers can be arranged again its now time to get our

churchyard ship shape. We know some cut loved ones graves themselves. We do have a polite request that plastic / silk flowers are NOT used, due to strong winds they have been blown in all directions and has caused damage to lawn mowers at times.

We have been so lucky with our volunteers so if you feel you have any time you could spare and feel fit enough we would truly appreciate you getting in touch. Ruth would be pleased to hear from you or give any of us a call. Thank you.

We have weddings approaching and some banns have been read. We send our prayers and blessings to you all who are preparing for your day.

We also look forward to Our Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and the services and celebrations that will be taking place in the Exe Valley. We also pray for Our Queen's health.

STOODLEIGH

Achurch.

Currently, St Margaret's is struggling and many services are low key because of on going health problems within the church community. We all send our best wishes to Jennifer Rowlandson and Margaret Cunningham.

On 24 January, Steph came for the internment of Valerie Lord's ashes in the churchyard. Valerie always said her time in Stoodleigh was so happy. Valerie's son Matthew and daughter Kate attended with three other members of the Stoodleigh community who remembered her.



On 13 February our CMS representatives came to our lay led service and gave us an interesting insight into their continued work in the Phillippines. They joined Chris and Jennifer for lunch at Parkhouse Water with Margaret.

The funeral service of Ian Fraser took place on 10 February. Many friends and relatives attended. The service was conducted by Claire followed by the interment in the churchyard.

Church Flower Rota

7th May	Phyllis Hill		
14th May	Penny Norman		
21st May Flower Festival			
28th May Queen's Jubilee preparations			
4th June	Queen's Jubilee		
18th June	Geraldine Talbot		
25th June	Geraldine Talbot		
2nd July	Fiona Rolfe		
9th July	Fiona Rolfe		

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

St Margaret's Church will mark the Jubilee with a Flower Festival from the 2 to 6 June.

Stoodleigh Community Jubilee Jamboree. Saturday 4 June at 4.30pm. This will be a big celebratory tea party inside and outside the parish hall and everyone is welcome. A small group is starting to make plans but we will need lots of help. This will be a community organised event. The event is free but you will need a ticket to help us with catering and there will be a lucky ticket prize.

Let's get together for the Jubilee and make it a celebration for neighbours and community, friendship, food and fun, getting to know one another again and welcoming new neighbours. PLEASE BOOK A TICKET BY RINGING 01398 351391

Watch out for community emails and the village website to keep you up to date with what's happening over this weekend.

https:www.middevonparish.co.uk/stoo dleigh/

Stoodleigh Family Fun Dog Show

The first since 2019! The Show will take place on Saturday 6 August at Vials Corner at 1.30pm for 2.00pm and as usual will be run jointly in aid of the Parish Hall and the Church. We are always pleased to welcome volunteers to help. The Dog Show classes will be available soon so you can start training. Cream Teas, Pimms and side shows as well. More information in due course but for info in the meantime, ring 01398 351391.

Fraud Protection Advice and Support 6 July at 7.00p.m. at Stoodleigh Parish Hall Fraud makes up about a third of all reported crime. The good news is that as much as 80% of fraud is preventable with relatively simple safety measures that can be employed to protect us from the scammers that we may encounter on a daily basis. Stoodleigh Parish Council has organised an evening with the Regional Fraud Protect Advisor, Ashley Jones. See further information parish website on the at https://www.middevonparish.co.uk/sto odleigh/

Congratulations and Welcome

Congratulations to Emily and Andy on the birth of their daughter, Aurelia Rosalie and to Brian and Alison on their first grandchild, to Christine on her second great grandchild, and to Nicola



Welcome to Tim and Irene who moved to West Whitnole during lockdown. We hope you enjoy living in Stoodleigh!

Finally: The Garden Club

After a Covid enforced break of two years, the Garden Club Annual Show is returning to the Parish Hall on Saturday 20 August at 2.30p.m.

Schedules are available at the Parish Hall and from Shirley and Jill and can be viewed on the village web after Easter. Classes include: Village flowers and arrangements, produce, under 12 (free entry), art, photography, craft, cookery, potatoes grown in a bucket.

Club members are hoping for bumper entries so please do join us with yours!

TEMPLETON

We do love to talk about the weather and we love animals so why not use animals to predict the weather? Well actually, we do, and we have done for centuries. May and June have the pleasant temperature most and. allegedly, the least amount of rain. So, instead of using an app to tell us when we can go out, here are some useful animal signs to look out for which predict rain. Frogs will croak loudly. sheep will huddle together, cats will sneeze, squirrels will take shelter and of course, cows will lie down. Is this folklore or scientific fact? While this may be open to debate, at least we will know much summer rainfall we are likely to get after St Swithin's Day.

Ukraine

The war in Ukraine has understandably dominated our thoughts and prayers





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over the past few months. Members of our local communities have tried to finds ways in which Ukrainian refugees came be warmly welcomed and after supported their terrible experiences. The Exeter Diocese has encouraged parishioners and clergy to sign up to the organisation called 'Citizens UK' through their Diocesan website. The diocese has partnered with Citizens UK to act as a key sponsor in Devon and co-ordinate the provision of homes for Ukrainian refugees and ongoing support.

Also, the Sanctuary Foundation is assisting the government in the roll-out of the "Homes for Ukraine" scheme, and this Foundation is calling on individuals, community groups, churches, schools and businesses to help build this vital provision for Ukrainian Refugees.

St Margaret's Church and Churchyard Now that the extended churchyard has become more established and the beech saplings have been planted along the fence boundary, all that remains is for the area to be consecrated by the Bishop of Crediton. There is now work to be done on the interior of the church, including repairs to the memorial plaque, and sanding down and repainting the walls is the next task. If you would like to get involved, we will be calling on help from any willing Templeton residents to achieve this.

Church Services

The Sunday Church Services have usually been held twice monthly. They are mostly lay-led, and have been wellattended, with the added pleasure recently of coffee, biscuits and a chat after the service. Easter Weekend Services Although this edition of the Today Magazine may reach you after Easter, at the time of writing this Parish Round-Up, we are looking forward to the Easter Meditation on Good Friday with Revd. Claire Curtis. Claire will also be joining us in Templeton for Easter Celebration on Easter Day. We will have a flower arrangement in the church porch for the Easter Flower Trail from Palm Sunday until Easter Monday.

Templeton Events

Sunday April 24th – Templeton Tractor Run

The tractor run will start from and finish at Templeton Village Hall. This fundraising event involves tractors, old and new, driving along a planned local route and is a great sight which often attracts many spectators, who watch them pass on the roadside. The tractors usually arrive at the village hall from 10am, leave for their run around 11.15am and return to the village hall about two and a half hours later.

Cost: £10.00 per tractor owner (which includes a pasty and a pint for the tractor drivers on their triumphant return). Come along and enjoy seeing these wonderful machines either before they leave, on the route, or on their return. There will be a grand draw, and refreshments will be available. Funds raised will go to Devon Air Ambulance and St Margaret's Church.

Saturday May 14th Safari Supper

The Safari Supper is a great social event where different courses of a meal are eaten at different people's houses, the cooking is shared, and people meet up with neighbours in and around Templeton. The evening will start at St Margaret's Church with drinks and starters, and then everyone will find out which house they will be going to for their main meal, and then their dessert. We have had several generous offers from people who are willing to be hosts, and if you would like to be a guest or host for the Safari Supper please get in touch with Lynda (01884 881318), Ginah (01884 253552) or Bindy (01884 860655) Minimum contribution £10.00 per guest. Funds in aid of St Margaret's Church.

Templeton Village Hall and Social Club's Annual General Meeting

Village Hall and Social Club AGM is Wednesday 18 May at 7.30pm at Templeton Village Hall. We are looking for new members to join our committee, possibly with new ideas for ways that we can involve the whole community in events and celebrations! Please come along and share your ideas and enthusiasm and join the committee!

Club nights at the village hall are held on Monday and Saturday evenings. Club membership is $\pounds 2$ a year and the drinks are very reasonably priced. The hall has two table tennis tables, a pool table, darts and skittles.

Also, with the summer ahead of us, there is an excellent permanent barbecue at the village hall, with all the barbecue tools ready for anyone in the village to benefit from. Just check first that the hall has not already been booked for an event for that day (01884 860655).

Monday May 23 at 7pm - Templeton Annual Meeting of Parishioners

This will be followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at St Margaret's Church, Templeton. Our village church and churchyard are important to many of us, even if we don't regularly attend church services, and our community depends on



everyone's involvement and mutual support. Any resident of the parish – of any faith or none - is able to attend the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and at this meeting the churchwardens are elected – or re-elected, after a report has been given by our rector, Revd. Steph Gordon-Jeffs.

Thursday June 2nd

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon Event - Brazier alight - at Templeton Village Hall

The bar will be open from 8pm with snacks and light refreshments, and the brazier will be lit at 9.45pm. The lighting of beacons is the first community event celebrating the Jubilee. Thousands of beacons will be lit on this evening by communities, charities and different groups in villages and towns throughout the British Isles. A beacon chain, once used as a tool for communication, has become a symbol of unity across towns, borders, countries and continents and is often the central focus for any outdoor gathering or celebration. Templeton is having a beacon brazier made by local blacksmith Colin Dayment, from South Molton. This will provide a permanent reminder of this unique moment in our Queen's reign, and will be used for future occasions in our community.

Sunday 5 June: Big Jubilee Lunch at Templeton Village Hall

This event is for everyone the village, it is free and starts at 12.30pm. All villagers will be invited to select a food item from a list, to bring with them. Other ideas for the day include a dressing-up competition for children for

the best Queen or King, and a Pudding Competition to be judged on the day.

Moving house



We would like to send our very best wishes to Cat and Henry Hoare and family who recently moved to Holcombe Rogus from Old Farm, and will soon settle into their new home in Clayhanger. We are also looking forward to welcoming the families who will soon be moving into Dart Cottage, Old Farm, and the School House.

In our thoughts

Our thoughts are with all those who are unwell, or who have been in hospital, or who are awaiting or recovering from surgery, or who are having a tough time at the moment. We hope that you will soon be feeling better.

A fond farewell to Michael Childs

Michael's funeral took place on 14 March at St Margaret's Church, Templeton. It was a beautiful sunny day. The church was full with Michael's many family members and friends, from both far and near, who came to attend the funeral. Afterwards, refreshments were served at Templeton Village Hall. We will all miss Michael and we pass on our thoughts and deepest sympathy to his family.

Flowers and Cleaning Rota – May and June

Phillida Strong	24 April – 1 May
Sue Coffin	8 May – 15 May
Teresa Pancherz	22 May – 29 May
Bindy Linden	5 June – 12 June
Gloria Woollacott	19 June – 26 June

WASHFIELD

Remember: Nothing is impossible to a willing heart and: Age doesn't matter unless you are a cheese!!

We hope you all had a very Happy Easter. With primroses and daffodils brightening up the countryside and bringing new hope it is good to be reminded that nature never disappoints and new life is all around us.

Palm Sunday was celebrated in Washfield with Steph and was followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting during which the Annual Report was adopted and Richard Scholes was elected as a Churchwarden - good news indeed for the parish. Richard was warmly welcomed to his new office.

We are going ahead with planning the Annual Church Fete, which will be held on July 2 at 2.30pm in the garden of The Old Rectory. There will be a short meeting to plan this event on Monday, June 13 at 7pm in the Worth Chapel please put this in your diary. After a two year gap we need the Fete to be extra special! Ideas for attractions for children are needed and all offers of help with stalls etc. will be warmly welomed.

If you can spare an hour or so on Saturday, May 7 between 10am and Mid-day there is a 'tidy-up the churchyard' morning arranged. Bring something to clear ivy off walls and gravestones if you can. Coffee and biscuits will be on hand!

Jubilee Weekend in Washfield will be celebrated in style and St. Mary's is holding a 'Songs of Praise' on Sunday, June 5 at 6.00pm. Please let Jeanne know if you would like your favourite hymn sung and we will hope to include it. (254306)

Found in the church - a silver watch with 'storm' printed on the face. Please phone 01884 - 254306 if it is yours



<u>Hire for Celebrations and</u> <u>Meetings or Retreat Days.</u>

Our superb wooden building or 'Hytte' as the Norwegians call it in Pennymoor, is a great space for a quiet retreat or study day for up tp 8 people. It is warm, has electric points and decking and chairs and table outside.

It is available for a donation to CHAT for Church groups and we can provide teas, coffees and cake.

For more details and menus please contact Jude on: admin @hollowmoorfarm.co.uk 07970590352 By the time this edition of Today comes out Easter will have come and gone and we'll be looking forward to more clement weather (the winds have been quite unkind so far in April), social events and lighter, warmer nights.

Several such events are being planned by the Social Club and if these are anything like the Wine Tasting evening in April (which was well organised, well supported and very enjoyable), we are in for several treats!

The first of these is on Sunday May 1 6pm - Open Mic evening hosted by Michael and Marc, two accomplished guitarists and singers. All local musical talent invited to join in and perform, especially children or just come for a musical evening and sing-along. Bar will be open.

Following on from that there will be 'Scarecrow Festival 2022'. As part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee the Social Club is holding its 4th Scarecrow Festival The theme this year will be Events/people of the 70 years of the Queen's reign represented in scarecrow form of course. Hopefully scarecrows will begin to emerge from mid-May. Judging will take place in the week beginning May 28th with awards later (see below) More details of entry forms, categories etc. to follow.

Other details of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in Washfield are:

Friday 3 June – Circular Family Farm Walk (approx. 2 miles) From Hall to Stanterton Farm starting at 2.30pm. Scavenger Hunt (£1 per entry) - Cream Teas in Hall on return (approx. 4.30pm) Saturday 4 June – Scarecrow walk with guiz in afternoon followed by Barbecue (6pm onwards) with Scarecrow celebration awards winners and evening. Bar open.

PARISH ROUND-UP

Sunday 5 June – 'Bring and Share' Big Jubilee Street Party Tea in Hall with photograph of assembled villagers. Please bring 'Bring and Share' food items at 2.30pm. Photograph at 3.00pm. Bring and Share Tea at 4.00pm. Wear red, white and blue attire if desired. FOLLOWED BY –

Songs of Praise service in St Mary's Church (See details in Church Notes above)

Final, comprehensive details may be subject to change so look out for posters put up around the village and posts put on the parish website middevonparish.co.uk and FB page (Humans of Washfield and Lower Washfield)

Also being organised by the Social Club is a Car Treasure Hunt on Saturday 18 June. Times to be announced soon so look out for these, and a Photographic Competition. Everyone is invited to submit up to 3 photographs (6x8) illustrating life in Washfield taken since January 1st 2020. Entries should be submitted by October 3 2022 (details to follow) and there will be a display of all photographs in the Village Hall.

They hope to produce a calendar of the winning photographs. There will be a special award for children's entries. Awards will be announced at the annual Pumpkin evening in October (Pumpkin plants are ready now so don't forget to purchase yours soon)

Don't forget that teatime@thehall is held, as always, on the second Tuesday of each month between 3-5pm. All age groups are welcome to pop in for tea, cakes, chatter and support.

The Parish Council is holding its Annual Meeting on Wednesday 4 May. Look out for timings and details of speaker. All welcome. We wish all those with special celebrations and birthdays our sincere wishes and, if you are not well, having treatment or awaiting operations, we wish you many get well wishes for a speedy recovery.

WITHLEIGH

With Easter now past, we can look forward to warmer longer days ahead as we move into Summer.

A warm Withleigh welcome to the new occupants of Gaylards and Green Hollows. We do hope you are settling in and look forward to seeing and meeting you at future village events.

Our Annual Church Meeting had to again be postponed from 2 March and at the time of writing is due to take place on 21 April.

The architect's report from the Quinquennial Inspection of St Catherines, which took place 11 November 2021 was received in early April. The overall outcome of the report is that the church is in sound condition but, inevitably, there are some general minor issues which will need to be addressed.

Thank you Susie for leading our informal service in February and we look forward to your leading again on 29 May.

We were pleased to be able to host the Ash Wednesday service and to welcome those who joined us from the Exe Valley as we began another season of Lent.



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It was lovely to see so many people at the Community Lunch on 24 March. To be able to get out and enjoy the company of others is a thing that we have missed so much in the last couple of years. Many thanks to all who supplied desserts or main course or helped to set up and serve the meal.

Our Mothering Sunday Service was well attended thanks go to Sara and Christine for organsing the pot plants which were distributed during the service.

The Easter Bingo was enjoyed by many, our next bingo will be May 5, Eyes down 7.30pm in the village hall. Although few in number the Beetle Drive was really enjoyed, especially by the younger participants and it was

even better for the lucky winners of Easter Eggs. Thank you Duncan for the Easter Eggs and keeping us all under control on the evening.

Thank you to Margaret and Rodney for producing the Withleigh display for the Easter Flower Trail, well done. Our service on 1 May will be our Patronal Festival, when we will be celebrating St Catherine of Sienna, after whom our church is named.

Our Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations have moved on another step since the last edition of the magazine.

Thursday 2 June, the Bonfire will be lit in the field opposite the village hall. There will be skittles and other games to enjoy. The bonfire will be lit at 9.00pm and there will be a BBQ in the hall car park.

On Friday 3 June coffee and cake will be served at Netherdale from 11.00am, there is plenty of parking in the field where the trees have been planted. On Saturday 4 June the evening will begin 7.30pm in the hall. A table quiz, 50's music, a pudding competition, along with supper and dancing. Dress code is either red/white/ blue or 50's style.

Sunday 5 June will begin with Songs of Praise in the church 2.30pm followed by a Street Party Style Tea Party in the hall car park (weather permitting, if not in the hall) 50's memorabilia will be on display in the church. A competition for the best Jubilee display, planted bucket will also take place.

If you wish to attend any of the above events please let us know. You are welcome to come along and join us. If you have any memorabilia for the display or want any more details on the pudding and Jubilee Display competion please call Sara 252949 or Brenda 252431 or email tucks@btconnect.com Our final planning meeting is Monday 16 May, which is open for all.

Our Summer Fete is on Saturday 16 July, in and around the village hall, further details in the next issue.

Congratulations to Ken and Shirley on celebrating their Ruby Wedding Anniversary, to anyone else who has a special anniversary and to any who have special birthdays.

As ever get well wishes go to all those known to us who are receiving treatment, recovering from operations or who are unwell at the moment.

Flower Rota May 1 and 8 Margarer Gale May 15 and 22 Michaela Luxton June 5 and 12 Queen's Jubilee June 19, 26 July 3 Rosie Edmonston-Low Join us for our weekly Coffee Morning via Zoom

This takes place every Wednesday morning at 10.30am Join us when you can and leave when you have to! On the first Wednesday each month we meet in person. Check out Steph's weekly update or the website.



Tilly's interpretation of the Easter Flower Trail at Rackenford The Crucifixion

EXE VALLEY WEBSITE

www.exevalleychurches.org

It's the best place to go for updates about what's on and what we do.





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Do you need help maintaining your garden? Lawn mowing, weeding, trimming low height hedges and trees, etc. Contact Emma Halsey on: 07949367502 or 01884 233560 or devotedgardencare@gmail.com

TODAY Ma 2022







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